IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Schön et al

TITLE: DEVICE FOR VARIABLE ACTUATION OF GAS

EXCHANGE VALVES OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES AND METHOD FOR OPERATING THE

DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH APPLICATION TO AVOID MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination of the present application, pleae amend as follows: